

FINAL

THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
of the City of Norwalk
Commission Meeting
March 4, 2019

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Johnnie Mae Weldon, Chair; Debora Goldstein;
Pamela Parkington

STAFF: Kevin Barber, General Manager; Ron Scofield, Asst. General Mgr.

OTHERS: Peter Johnson, CMEEC Ratepayer Representative
Sue Gabriele, Animal Nation
Atty. Chris Hodgson, Berchem Moses

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Weldon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public was in attendance to comment.

NORWALK TREE ALLIANCE LETTER OF SUPPORT

Mr. Barber told the Commission that the Norwalk Tree Alliance (NTA) has requested a letter of reference from TTD. They are seeking a grant from the Westport Rotary Club for an upcoming project with Columbus Magnet School. TTD has supported the NTA over the past three years with District funds for the purchase and planting of trees throughout East Norwalk. Mr. Barber has reviewed the draft letter submitted by Mr. Andrew Strauss and has no objections.

**** COMMISSIONER GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE LETTER AND
AUTHORIZE JOHNNIE MAE WELDON, CHAIRPERSON, TO BE THE SIGNATORY
OF THE LETTER.**

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ANIMAL NATION DONATION REQUEST

Commissioner Goldstein pointed out for the second year running that this request violates TTD's Contribution Policy. One, they are making an attestation that the funds are primarily for the benefit of the residents and businesses of the District and it is not. Some of the monies fund Westport and other things. Second, TTD's policy says we don't give money to any organizations who give money to other organizations and for the first time it is very clear in the documentation that this organization gives money to other organizations. For those reasons for a second year in a row Commissioner Goldstein will be voting against this request.

Commissioners Weldon and Parkington were in favor of granting the donation request. Commissioner Parkington stated that it does fall outside of TTD's Donation Policy, but if this is for the greater good of the Norwalk area, she is in favor.

- ** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE DONATION REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500 (POINTER) ON THE FUNDRAISING SCHEDULE FOR THE NORWALK/FAIRFIELD POLICE CANINE UNITS FUNDRAISER FOR 2019 WHICH WILL BE HELD ON MAY 4, 2019.**
- ** COMMISSIONER WELDON SECONDED.**
- ** 2 IN FAVOR; 1 OPPOSED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED 2 TO 1.**

MINUTES OF MEETING

February 25, 2019

- ** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2019 REGULAR MEETING.**
- ** COMMISSIONER GOLDSTEIN SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS/KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Mr. Barber started with the Financial Highlights and informed the Commission that he made a few minor changes to the report to try and provide better information. Besides the format being changed, a Cash Balance Total has been added, which are funds that are local, not at CMEEC.

Mr. Barber reviewed the P&L Budget vs. Actual for both the Electric Company and the District and reviewed some of the major line items.

KPI's – All in line with the industry bandwidth.

FINAL

PCA – Heading in the right direction with the Rate Stabilization balance. It is forecasted by the end of FY2021 to be about \$2.5 million. The target of reducing the balance is headed in the right direction, but is always subject to change based on the effects of the market, power costs and/or what is decided to do in the future with rates.

PENSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Barber said the Pension Committee met on February 20, 2019 with Hooker & Holcombe to review the status of the Pension Trust and how it is performing. The market at the end of last year was hard, but it did pick up in January and February 2019, which is a favorable outlook for 2019.

The next meeting of the Pension Committee will be scheduled for August 2019.

TOD OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Commissioner Goldstein reported back to the Commission about the meeting held on February 5, 2019 of the TOD Oversight Committee that she was appointed to by the Commission. The meeting included the Oversight Committee and the consultants that were retained by the Oversight Committee. The purpose of the meeting was to start framing out the engagement according to the Agreement. Commissioner Goldstein provided the Commission with the handouts from the meeting in their packet.

Prior to the start of the February 5, 2019 meeting around 3:30 p.m., some members of the Committee convened in the parking lot of City Hall. Steve Kleppin obtained a shuttle bus from the City and took the consultants and members of the Committee around East Norwalk so they could examine the physical infrastructure.

Commissioner Goldstein said they talked about the first Community Vision Session which is scheduled for the not too distant future. Commissioner Goldstein will notify the Commission of the scheduled date for the session.

Commissioner Goldstein said the consultant appears to be pretty good. The Committee is encouraged by their willingness to listen.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Library – The Fire Marshall paid a visit to the Library and found some issues in the building that will need to be addressed. There will be some items that will incur expenses in order to make the necessary repairs requested by the Fire Marshall. Mr. Barber, Ms. Archibald and the Fire Marshall will be meeting to discuss.

FINAL

Annual Meeting – In the process of finalizing the preparation for the meeting.

3/3/19 Winter Storm – There were two issues. One was a transformer issue that affected five customers for about 30 minutes. The second one was a tree fell onto a primary line. This was a 20-minute outage for about 12 customers.

3/5/19 Public Hearing – Commissioner Goldstein will be attending and testifying at the Energy and Technology Committee Public Hearing in Hartford regarding some legislation that is being proposed that will affect CMEEC and also the District and the utilities. The legislation is a result of the CMEEC issues that have been brought up to the Commission in the past.

PROJECT SUMMARY

As the Project Summary was tabled from the February 11, 2019 Commission meeting, this month's report covers two months.

Rowan Street Building – The steel for the building has been delivered. Construction will begin once the weather improves in order to avoid added expense for concrete during the winter months.

Library Solar & Battery Install – Is up and running and is doing very well. Residents can visit the Library and view the kiosk monitor to see what is being generated through the solar.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Collective Bargaining

**** COMMISSIONER GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.**

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commissioners, Messrs Barber and Scofield, and Atty. Hodgson entered into Executive Session at 7:49 p.m.

The Commissioners, Messrs. Barber and Scofield, and Atty. Hodgson returned to public session at 8:44 p.m.

FINAL

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Tenney
Executive Assistant
Third Taxing District